



Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Hearing Witness Biographies

Safeguarding the People of Nagorno-Karabkh

Witness Biographies



Sam Brownback served as Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom and continues to work with coalitions around the globe to promote and protect the fundamental human right to religious liberty. As a fellow for the Center for Religious Liberty (The Center) for the 2021-2022 academic year, he will teach a course in international religious liberty at Catholic Law in the spring of 2022. Brownback was the 46th Governor of Kansas. He was first elected in 2010 and re-elected in 2014. He left office after being confirmed to the position of Ambassador-at-Large in January 2018. Prior to becoming governor, Brownback served in a number of elected government offices in Kansas. After one term in the House of Representatives, he served as Senator for Kansas from 1996-2011. Brownback is a licensed attorney, having graduated from the University of Kansas School of Law.



Michael Rubin has for nearly 20 years been a senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. Rubin previously worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon, edited *Middle East Quarterly*, and taught classes relating to the Middle East, Africa, and Central Asia at sea for the US Navy and Marine Corps. Rubin has a Ph.D. in history from Yale University where he also worked as a lecturer in Iranian history. He also taught at Johns Hopkins University and at three different universities in northern Iraq. He contributed affidavits to or served as an expert witness in court cases involving money laundering and terrorism. He is the author of several books, several dozen academic articles, book chapters, or encyclopedia entries, and more than 2,000 opinion essays in U.S. newspapers.



David L. Phillips is an Academic Visitor, St. Anthony's College, Southeast European Studies at Oxford University and an Adjunct Professor, Security Studies Program, School of Foreign Service, at Georgetown University. He previously served as Director of the Program on Peacebuilding and Rights at Columbia University's Institute for the Study of Human Rights. Phillips has served as Foreign Affairs Expert and as Senior Adviser to the U.S. Department of State during the Clinton, Bush and Obama administrations. He chaired the Turkey-Armenia Reconciliation Commission and directed the Track Two Program on Turkey and the Caucasus. He has authored many books, including *Unsilencing the Past: Track Two Diplomacy and Turkish-Armenian Reconciliation* and *The Turkey-Armenia Protocols: A Diplomatic History*.



John Evans a former American diplomat who served as United States ambassador to Armenia. Evans attended Yale University to study Russian history, earning an undergraduate degree with honors in Russian Studies. He pursued doctoral studies in history at Columbia University but left after one semester to join the U.S. Foreign Service in 1971. Evans served in the US foreign service in Iran, Czechoslovakia, the former Soviet Union, and with the OSCE and NATO, as well as in the Office of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and on the USSR desk. He studied and became fluent in Persian, Russian and Czech, as well as French.